

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the paragraph (Abstract) beginning at page 43, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

ABSTRACT

The invention provides an air conditioner that is capable of performing optimal control in accordance with the environment of an indoor space at startup, and a method of controlling such. The air conditioner (10) forms a refrigerant circuit, ~~comprising~~ having a first heat exchanger, a second heat exchanger, thermistors, humidity sensors (3b), ~~(5b)~~, a temperature sensor (4), ventilation fans, a compressor, a casing, a control unit (80), and the like. The control unit (80) is connected to the temperature sensor (4), the humidity sensors (3b), ~~(5b)~~, a storage unit (81), a timer (82), a manual input unit (83), air passageway switching mechanisms (35—38), a four-way switching valve (9), and an expansion valve (11). In the stage before the air conditioner (10) starts normal operation after startup, the control unit (80) performs a priority control operation that prioritizes either the sensible heat process or the latent heat process.